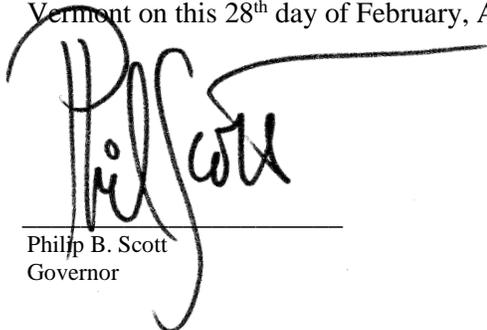


**State of Vermont**  
**Executive Department**  
**A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** families face serious health risks and March of Dimes fights for their health by supporting research, leading programs, and providing education and advocacy; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes was founded by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1938 to fight polio, and funded the development of two vaccines – still in use today – that virtually eliminated the crippling disease; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes in 1958, having achieved its initial mission, shifted its attention from polio to the prevention of birth defects, and through federal and state advocacy led the way in establishing a nationwide network of birth defects monitoring programs and research centers; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes has undertaken decades of groundbreaking research in maternal and infant health, which has led to the discovery of lifesaving products and tests such as surfactant therapy for premature infants and tests to identify life-threatening birth defects; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes was a pioneer in the support of newborn screening, urging Congress to pass and fund the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act in 2008; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes is a long-time advocate for access to health care for women of childbearing age, infants, children, and families, ensuring they have access to quality, affordable health care before, during, and after pregnancy through programs such as the Children’s Health Insurance Program and Medicaid postpartum extension coverage for one full year after childbirth; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes was a leading advocate for bipartisan legislation to ensure reasonable accommodations in the workplace with passage and enactment of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act; and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes in 2003 launched the Prematurity Campaign to address the crisis of premature birth and help families have full-term, healthy babies, and authored the 2006 Premature Research Expansion and Education Act for Mothers (PREEMIE); and
- WHEREAS,** March of Dimes and its volunteers continue to advocate for national and state policies and programs to improve the health of women of childbearing age, infants, children, and families; and
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim March 2023 as

**MARCH OF DIMES MONTH**  
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, A.D. 2023.

  
Philip B. Scott  
Governor



  
Brittney L. Wilson  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs